

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

~~S-E-C-R-E-T~~

COUNTRY Yugoslavia

REPORT

SUBJECT Organization of the Yugoslav
Border Guard

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General

1. Unlike the other Eastern European states, Yugoslavia has made its Border Guard (Granicera) a component of its State Secretariat of Defense. The Border Guard sees to the military security of the frontier and also has customs guard and border police functions. The actual border traffic control functions are undertaken by the police, however.

Organization

2. The supreme headquarters of the Border Guard is in Belgrade. Subordinate to it are six Border Guard Brigades, each containing three to **five** battalions. Each battalion consists of three companies of three 50 to 60-man platoons each. The platoons are divided into three or four squads which man border posts. The total strength of the Border Guard is estimated at 13,500.
3. After the dissolution in 1953 of the State Secretariat of Interior's security force known as the KNOJ (Korpus Narodne Odbrane Jugoslavije), all the units charged with border duties were placed under the jurisdiction of the State Secretariat for National Defense. The commander of the Border Guard is Colonel General Rudolf PRIMORAC.

Recruitment and Training

4. The Border Guard is not a special elite force, but consists of conventional infantry troops who have undergone in addition to their regular infantry training a short special course in border guard duties. Only politically-reliable men are inducted for border service. It is further claimed that border guards are better paid than other members of the armed forces. In order to enhance the reliability of the Border Guard, as a general rule guards are sent to border sectors in which the population is different from that of the guards. The border guards in Slovenia, for example, are mainly Serbs, Montenegrins, and Macedonians.

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5. Organization**436th Border Guard Brigade, Ljubljana**

- 229th Battalion, Sezana
 - 1st Company, Nova Gorica
 - 2nd Company, Kopriva
 - 3rd Company, Kozina
- 64th Battalion, Tolmin
 - 1st Company, Zaga
 - 2nd Company, Kobarid
 - 3rd Company, Kojško
- 38th Battalion, Radovljica
 - 1st Company, Jezersko
 - 2nd Company, Zirovnica
 - 3rd Company, Kranjska Gora
- 6th Battalion, Dravograd
 - 1st Company, Podvelka
 - 2nd Company, Dravograd
 - 3rd Company, Crna
- 95th Battalion, Gornja Radgona
 - 1st Company, Cankova
 - 2nd Company, Apace
 - 3rd Company, Sv. Kungota

199th Border Guard Brigade, Podravska Slatina

- 7th Battalion, Murska Sobota
 - 1st Company, Lendava
 - 2nd Company, Dubrovnik
 - 3rd Company, Gornji Petroveci
- 7th Battalion, Virovitica
 - 1st Company, ?
 - 2nd Company, ?
 - 3rd Company, ?
- 7th Battalion, Beli Manastir
 - 1st Company, ?
 - 2nd Company, Torjanci
 - 3rd Company, Dolnji Miholjac

125th Border Guard Brigade, Stari Becej

- 56th Battalion, Bajmok
 - 1st Company, Palic
 - 2nd Company, Tavankut
 - 3rd Company, Stanisic
- 7th Battalion, Kikinda
 - 1st Company, Jasa Tomic
 - 2nd Company, Srpska Crnja
 - 3rd Company, Banatsko Arandjelovo
- 58th Battalion, Vrsac
 - 1st Company, Bela Crkva
 - 2nd Company, Veliko Srediste
 - 3rd Company, Konak

229th Border Guard Brigade, Knjazevac

- 25th Battalion, Dolnji Milanovac
 - 1st Company, Brza Palanka
 - 2nd Company, Donji Milanovac
 - 3rd Company, Golubac

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7th Battalion, Zajecar
1st Company, Aldinac
2nd Company, Grljan
3rd Company, Rajac

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7th Battalion, Pirot
1st Company, Zvonce
2nd Company, Dimitrovgrad
3rd Company, Visocka Rzana

7th Battalion, Bosiljgrad
1st Company, Bistar
2nd Company, Izvor
3rd Company, Vlasina

476th Border Guard Brigade, Skopje

78th Battalion, Pehcevo
1st Company, Novo Selo
2nd Company, Berovo
3rd Company, Delcevo

7th Battalion, Gevgelija
1st Company, Konopista
2nd Company, Gevgelija
3rd Company, Novi Dojran

7th Battalion, Bitola
1st Company, Stenje
2nd Company, Medzitlija
3rd Company, ?

19th Battalion, Debar
1st Company, Zirovnica
2nd Company, Debar
3rd Company, Struga

54th Battalion, Djakovica
1st Company, Junik
2nd Company, Djakovica
3rd Company, Dragas

9th Independent Border Guard Battalion, Titograd

1st Company, ?
2nd Company, Andrijevice
3rd Company, Prokletije Mountains, SW of Pec

475th Border Guard Brigade, Split

7th Battalion, Dubrovnik
1st Company, Bar
2nd Company, Hercegnovi
3rd Company, Sipan Island
4th Company, Lastovo Island

7th Battalion, Split
1st Company, Korkula Island
2nd Company, Hvar Island
3rd Company, Vis Island

7th Battalion, Zadar
1st Company, Sibenik
2nd Company, Zirje Island
3rd Company, Dugi Otok Island

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7th Battalion, Pula
 1st Company, Losinj Island
 2nd Company, Pula
 3rd Company, Rovinj
 4th Company, Piran

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6. Organization of Border Guard Units along the Austrian Frontier

436th Border Guard Brigade, Ljubljana

38th Battalion, Radovljica

1st Company, Jezersko

Posts at: Ankova-Planina
 Hainsturn
 Medvodje
 Pecovnik
 Virnik
 Muri
 Ankova Planina
 Seesberg-Sattel
 Jenko Planina

2nd Company, Zirovnica

Posts at: Mlince Planina
 Rosenkogel
 Rosenbach-Sattel
 Kahlkogel
 Lepi Vrh
 Baeren-Sattel
 Valvasor-Huette
 Stol
 Belsica-Sattel
 Zelenica-Planina
 Ljibelj
 Hains-Sattel

3rd Company, Kranjska Gora

Posts at: Ratece
 Tromedje
 Podkoren
 Vojsca
 Srednji Vrh
 Hodnik
 Mallestiger
 Belca

6th Battalion, Dravograd

1st Company, Podvelka

Posts at: Pernica
 Primuskogel
 Sveti Jernej
 Koslic
 Sveti 3 Kralji
 Kapunar
 Radlje
 Brezni Vrh
 Gorna Kapla
 Srzanj
 Halat
 Sveti Duh

2nd Company, Dravograd

Posts at: Jamnik
 Erjauc
 Strojna
 Ljibelice
 Jelenko
 Senenik
 Goriski Vrh
 Hushnerkogel
 Jancki Fels

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3rd Company, Crna

Posts at: Logar Planina
 Paulic Sattel
 Pastirk Sattel
 Sveti Duh
 Egejski Vrh
 Olsova Planina
 Koprivna
 Topla
 Pecen
 Terce
 Reht
 Lom
 Holmec

95th Battalion, Gorna Radgona**1st Company, Cankova**

Posts at: Petanjci
 Gederovci
 Skakovci
 Korovci
 Gerlinci
 Fiksinci
 Kramarovci
 Serdica
 Kuzma
 Matjasevci

2nd Company, Apace

Posts at: Slatki Vrh
 Gorni Cmurek
 Konjisce
 Crnci
 Apace
 Lutverci
 Sratovci

3rd Company, Sveta Kungota

Posts at: Ropic
 Sveti Kriz
 Sveti Jurij
 Spicnik
 Cirknik
 Plac
 Sveti Ilj
 Cersak
 Selinica

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7. Commanding Officers**Unit****Brigade, Ljubljana**

Battalion, Sezana
 Battalion, Tolmin
 Battalion, Radovljica
 Battalion, Dravograd
 Battalion, Gorna Radgona

Brigade, Podravska Slatina

Battalion, Murska Sobota
 Battalion, Virovitica
 Battalion, Beli Manastir

Commanding Officer**Col. Mihajlo BLAZEVIC**

Capt. 1st Class Djuro PESKIR
 Lt. Col. Bogdan STOJANOVIC
 Major Milutin TRBOJEVIC
 Major Franc CUK
 Major Marko SODJA

Col. Mile KOLUNDJICA

Major MILOT (fnu)
 Major Stevo VOJNOVIC
 Major Pajo LIVADA

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<u>Unit</u>	<u>Commanding Officer</u>
<u>Brigade, Stari Becej</u>	Lt. Col. Simon MISCEVIC
Battalion, Bajmok	Major Milan PEJIC
Battalion, Kikinda	Major Mirko TADINAC
Battalion, Vrsac	Major Spasoje BOJEVIC
<u>Brigade, Knjazevac</u>	Col. Djuro BAKRAC
Battalion, D. Milanovac	Major Vojislav NIKCEVIC
Battalion, Zajecar	Major Cedo GLISIC
Battalion, Pirot	Major Stevo MIHAJLOVIC
Battalion, Bosiljgrad	Major Franc PETRIC
<u>Brigade, Skopje</u>	Col. Marko SRDIC
Battalion, Pehcevo	Major Obren MARKOVIC
Battalion, Gevgelija	Major KOSTIC (fnu)
Battalion, Bitola	Major Slavko BADANJAC
Battalion, Debar	Major Bosko MEDIC
Battalion, Djakovica	Lt. Col. DIMIJANOVIC (fnu)
<u>Ind. Battalion, Titograd</u>	Col. Franc ROJSEK
<u>Brigade, Split</u>	?
Battalion, Dubrovnik	?
Battalion, Split	?
Battalion, Zadar	1st Lt. RAZIN (fnu)
Battalion, Pula	?

Border Dimensions

8. The total length of the Yugoslav border measures 4,949 kilometers. The common border with Austria measures 324 kilometers, with Hungary 623 kilometers, with Rumania 557 kilometers, with Bulgaria 536 kilometers, with Albania 466 kilometers, with Greece 263 kilometers, and with Italy 204 kilometers. The country has 1,996 kilometers of coastline.

Sectors of the Border Guard Brigades

9. The various border sectors are guarded by the following brigades:

Austrian: parts of the Ljubljana Border Guard Brigade

Hungarian: Podravska Slatina brigade and parts of the Stari Becej brigade

Rumanian: parts of the Stari Becej and Knjazevac brigades

Bulgarian: parts of the Knjazevac and Skopje brigades

Greek: parts of the Skopje brigade

Albanian: parts of the Skopje brigade and the independent battalion at Titograd

Italian: parts of the Ljubljana brigade

Coastline: Split Border Guard Brigade

Behavior of the Border Guard

10. The extremely strict regulations governing the work of the Border Guard which were in effect after World War II have been appreciably relaxed.

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[redacted]

Border controls are now strict but correct. The border patrols are not very meticulously carried out [redacted]

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[redacted] Suspicious persons arrested by the Yugoslav Border Guard are turned over to the People's Militia (police).

Communications

11. There are telephone connections from brigade headquarters through battalion, company, and platoon headquarters to the individual border posts. There are radio communications from brigade headquarters through the battalions to the companies. The Border Guard units are supplied by the Army supply organizations in the area.

Political Indoctrination

12. The ideological orientation of the Border Guard troops is intensively pursued down to the company level by specially trained political officers. The selectivity of the recruitment combined with the political indoctrination make for a high degree of reliability. By means of the intensive orientation and despite the very rigorous training, the morale of the border guards is good. Most of them are of peasant origin, primitive, vigorous, undemanding, and easily led. Discipline is extremely rigid. Psychologically and physically, the condition of the Yugoslav Border Guard is good.

Equipment and Weapons

13. The uniforms of the Border Guard do not differ from those of other infantry units. Only the insignia, a crossed rifle and pistol, indicates service in the Border Guard. Border Guard equipment does not differ from that of the infantry, except for the fact that only light weapons are used. A border post is equipped with one light machine gun, one or two pistols, one or two flare pistols, one set of binoculars, and one watchdog. Half the men carry M 98 rifles and half carry sub-machine guns. Every man carries two hand grenades.
14. A border post is generally staffed by 10 to 15 men. The post housing the platoon leader, who in the Border Guard is almost always a commissioned officer, is generally larger than other posts. Existing buildings are often requisitioned as a border post headquarters. The posts are generally about 500 meters inside the frontier.

Border Defenses

15. Little attempt has been made to erect an "iron curtain" along the Yugoslav border. Pre-World War II bunkers exist in places along the frontier but they are not manned. Only in some places on the Adriatic coast have new bunker-type fortifications been erected. In most of the strategic places along the general frontier, simple field fortifications have been erected.

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